

Objections to Alcohol Licence Applications

Please read these pages before completing this form

Guidance Notes for Objections to Alcohol Licensing Applications

This page answers frequently asked questions about objections to applications for liquor licenses.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Licensing Officer on 06 8715000.

Who can object to an application for an alcohol licence?

Any person may object to the granting of a licence only if he or she has a greater interest in the application for it than the public generally. You would be considered to have a greater interest if you live close to the proposed premises, operate a business or organisation close to the premises, or have some other close connection with the proposed premises.

When must an objection be made?

An objection must be made in writing and be received by the licensing committee within 15 working days after the first publication of the public notice. Public notices of alcohol licence applications can be found in newspapers such as HB Today, Hastings Mail & Napier Mail. A notice is also displayed on the premises or site.

On what grounds can an objection be made?

An objection can only be made in relation to the matters listed in section 105 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 for new licences or section 132 of the Act for renewals. These are:

1. The object of this act;
2. The suitability of the applicant;
3. Any relevant local alcohol policy;
4. The days on which and the hours during which the applicant proposes to sell alcohol;
5. The design and layout of any proposed premises;
6. Whether the applicant is engaged in, or proposes to engage in, the sale of goods other than alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, non-alcoholic refreshments, food, or other such goods;
7. Whether the applicant is engaged in, or proposes to be engaged in, the provision of services other than those directly related to the sale of alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, non-alcoholic refreshments, food, or some other service;
8. The effect on the amenity and good order of the locality; or
9. Whether the applicant has appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law.

For renewal applications, there is an additional criteria under section 131(1)(d):

- The manner in which the applicant has sold (or as the case may be, sold and supplied), displayed, advertised or promoted alcohol.

What is the Object of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012?

The Object of the Act is that “the sale, supply and consumption of alcohol should be undertaken safely and responsibly; and the harm caused by the excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol should be minimized.”

What is meant by the amenity and good order of the locality?

When considering the impact of a licence application on the amenity and good order of the locality, the committee will have regard to current and possible future noise levels, nuisance and vandalism, and the number of premises for which licenses of the same kind are already held. For new applications, the committee will also consider the

compatibility of the purposes for which land near the premises concerned is used, and the purposes for which those premises will be used if the licence is issued.

Is commercial competition valid grounds for objection?

No, the committee must not take into account any prejudicial effect that the issuing of the licence may have on any other licensed business.

Are anonymous objections accepted?

No, we need to identify the person objecting so we can establish whether they have a greater interest than the public generally and therefore whether it is a valid objection. Anonymous objections cannot be accepted as valid.

Is my objection confidential?

No, a copy of your objection has to be provided to the applicant, so your identity and the details of your objection are not confidential.

What happens if I make an objection?

A copy of objections received are given to the applicant, and the Licensing Officer may discuss them with the applicant. Sometimes the applicant will offer to make changes to appease the objectors, such as reducing hours or changing aspects of the business. If this occurs, objectors will be contacted to see if they agree to the changes and wish to withdraw their objection or if they continue to object. If no agreement is reached and the application continues to be objected, it will go to a public hearing.

The District Licensing Committee of three members will hear the matter. The objectors and the applicants will be invited to attend and state their case, and it is recommended that objectors do attend the hearing. The Committee will then deliberate and decide whether to grant or decline the application, or what conditions should be imposed on the licence.

Objection to an Application for an Alcohol Licence

This form is for objecting to an application for a new alcohol licence, or the renewal of an existing alcohol licence or the variation of the conditions of an existing licence. This covers On-licences, Off-licences, Club licences and in some circumstances, Special licences.

Please read the guidance notes accompanying this form to ensure your objection is valid and contains sufficient detail.

1. Your contact details

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone (daytime): _____ Fax: _____

Phone (mobile): _____

If you are submitting on behalf of an organisation, please indicate your position and the organisation:

Organisation: _____

Position: _____

2. Your objection

Would you like to present your objection in person at a hearing? Yes No

How do you have a greater interest than the public generally?

- Live close to the premises
- Operate an organisation or business close to the premises
- Other (please specify):

Please identify the alcohol licence application you are objecting to:

Name of applicant or business: _____

Address of business: _____

Proposed business: _____

What are your grounds for objecting?

- (a) the object of the Act
- (b) the suitability of the applicant
- (c) any relevant local alcohol policy
- (d) the days on which and the hours during which the applicant proposes to sell alcohol
- (e) the design and layout of any proposed premises
- (f) whether the applicant is engaged in, or proposes to engage in, the sale of goods other than alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, non-alcoholic refreshments, food, or other such goods
- (g) Whether the applicant is engaged in, or proposes to be engaged in, the provision of services other than those directly related to the sale of alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, no-alcoholic refreshments, food, or some other service
- (h) The affect on the amenity and good order of the locality
- (i) Whether the applicant has appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law

Additional grounds for objecting renewals:

- the manner in which the applicant has sold, supplied, displayed, advertised or promoted alcohol

Please provide some detail on the grounds for objection you have identified above: (Continue on separate sheet if necessary)

The decision I would like the District Licensing Committee to make is:

- Refuse the application
- Grant the application with the following conditions: (please suggest any conditions below)

Please detail any conditions you would like to impose on the licence if it were to be granted, e.g. days and hours etc.
